

ROYAL

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FREE

GreenwichTime

No.270 October 15 2013



Produced by the Royal Borough of Greenwich
for the community for over 25 years

LEO Awards 2013 Council of the Year

A high at night

Astronomers issue invite to watch
lunar eclipse ...p14&15



Our ships come in

CREST OF A WAVE: historic vessels
sail into Greenwich for a tall
ships event in the summer



FAST FOOD TAKEAWAY

Burger bar's litter patrols... p11



SUPPORT FOR START-UPS

Help for entrepreneurs... p12&13

First vessels sign up for tall ships regatta to Greenwich

THE first vessels have signed up to take part in a tall ships race from Falmouth to Royal Greenwich.

And the call has gone out for shipmates to crew the boats during a nine-day regatta next September.

Up to 50 of the world's most spectacular tall ships will set out on a race from Falmouth to Greenwich via the Isle of Wight in a race organised by Sail Training International (STI).

The ships will be crewed by hundreds

of sponsored trainees aged 16-25 years old as part of a sail training adventure which will help them to discover hidden strengths and talents and the value of team work. And young people across the royal borough are invited to sign up and train as crew.

But anyone over 16 can pay to sail and experience this seafaring adventure. Crew members don't need any previous sailing experience as training is included.

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GREENWICH AND WOOLWICH

Nick Raynsford (Lab)
Email raynsfordn@parliament.uk
or write to Nick Raynsford MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Call the office in advance on 020 7219 5895 to register for a surgery (lines are open Monday-Thursday 10am-12pm & 2-4pm).
2nd & 4th Fridays of the month, 7pm at 32 Woolwich Road, Greenwich SE10 0JU.
2nd Saturday of the month, 11am at Charlton House, Charlton Road, Charlton SE7 8RE.
2nd Saturday of the month, 2pm at West Greenwich House, 141 Greenwich High Road, Greenwich SE10 8JA.
4th Saturday of the month: 11am at the Barnfield Project, Oak House, Barnfield Road SE18 3UH.
4th Saturday of the month, 2pm at Woolwich Town Hall, Wellington Street, Woolwich SE18 6PW.

ELTHAM

Clive Efford (Lab)
Call for an appointment at the following monthly surgeries on 020-8850 5744 between 11am and 3pm Mon-Fri.
1st Tues: Anstridge Community Centre, Anstridge Rd. SE9, 10am-11.30pm
1st Fri: Horn Park Community Centre, 96 Sibthorpe Road, 11am-12.30pm
2nd Sat: St Mary's Community Centre, Eltham High Street, 10am, and 4th Friday of the month at 6pm.
3rd Tues: Middle Park Community Centre, 150 Middle Park Avenue, 11am-12.30pm
3rd Fri: Coldharbour Neighbourhood office, library entrance, William Barefoot Drive, 11am.
4th Sat: Shrewsbury House, 10am, Bushmoor Crescent

ERITH & THAMESMEAD

Teresa Pearce (Lab)
All surgeries are booked by appointment by calling 020 7219 7068 or write to Teresa Pearce MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, or email teresa.pearce.mp@parliament.uk
Four advice surgeries each month: the 1st Saturday of the month in Thamesmead, the 2nd Saturday of the month in Erith, the 3rd Friday of the month in Northumberland Heath and the 4th Friday of the month in Abbey Wood.

GLA MEMBER

Len Duvall (Lab) is the GLA member for Greenwich and Lewisham. Write to Len Duvall, GLA, City Hall, Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA; phone 020 7983 4517; or email len.duvall@london.gov.uk

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Contact your MEP at the UK Office of the European Parliament on 0207227 4300.

GREENWICH COUNCILLORS

Contact Members' Services on 020-8921 5151 for information on the surgery times for your councillor.

ROYAL BOROUGH MEETINGS

The following meetings take place at the Town Hall, Wellington Street, unless stated otherwise.

Oct 21 - Planning Board, 6.30pm

Oct 22 - Licensing review sub committee, 6pm; Abbey Wood Local Housing Panel, 7pm, Alexander McLeod Primary School, Fuchsia Street SE2 0QS

More information on 020 8921 5130 or at www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/meetings

GT CONTACTS

GT is produced by the Royal Borough of Greenwich, The Woolwich Centre, Wellington St, SE18 6HQ
Phone: 020 8921 5916
Email: greenwich.time@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Editor: Hilary Bryan

Reporters:
Dick Townsend-Smith

Simon Banks
Ian Lamont

Advertising:
Call Nicola on 020 8921 5572 or Gaynor on 020 8921 5033

Distribution:
020 8940 0666
or email sasha@londonletterbox.co.uk

LETTERS

Write to: GT Letters, Communications Team, Woolwich Centre, Wellington Street, SE18 6HQ or email greenwich.time@royalgreenwich.gov.uk
We reserve the right to edit any letters received.

Plea to all runners

ON behalf of Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice, I would like to appeal to runners who have been lucky enough to secure a place in next year's Virgin London Marathon to run for us.

The hospice also has five charity places available for those who were unsuccessful in the marathon ballot. Runners with hospice places are required to pay

£50 and raise a minimum of £2,000 in sponsorship, which will help Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice continue to provide its free specialist end of life nursing, medical care and support for local people, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Runners are asked to make contact by Friday, October 18.

Jane Borrett, 020 8303 3719
email running@gbch.org.uk

Please tidy car park

MAY I draw your attention to the car park for Queen Elizabeth Hospital, the big one across the road, which has been a blessing to drivers and has more disabled places available. Sadly, the surrounding grass, bushes and weeds that are along the path and road are badly in need of a tidy up! I almost feel like bringing my shears down as it is so untidy and overgrown. But, as I've just had my knee done, I'm

a bit disabled. So come on Greenwich borough, get the men out!

Mrs June King, Eltham

● THE car park at Queen Elizabeth is managed by Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust, not the council. We contacted them and gained the following response: "Following this query we will of course look into this situation and will work with our PFI partners to resolve this issue as soon as possible."

Pic Spot... send yours to greenwich.time@royalgreenwich.gov.uk



SUGANYA SIVANANTHAM: 'This photo was taken at the Woolwich pier during an evening walk'

Nelson statue will be back

I FREQUENTLY used to salute the statue of Nelson outside the Trafalgar Tavern when I went for my riverside walks. However, I'm annoyed that the statue has been missing for over a year and I wonder what has happened to it, particularly as the tavern has announced a forthcoming function in his honour?

Ann Maxim, Greenwich

● A spokesman for the Inc Group, which manages the Trafalgar Tavern, said: "The statue in question has been removed as it needed to be repaired. It will be reinstalled in the near future".

Make alternative cycle route plan

FURTHER to Lucy Hatherly's letter about cycling in Greenwich Park (GT October 1) I should like to point out the potential for cyclists of the route between St Mary's and Park Row gates. Anyone taking the present alternative through the Romney Road congestion can testify to its dangers and unhealthy conditions, particularly in the west-east direction where there is no bus lane alternative.

Instead the park path is now duplicated by the parallel access to the new Maritime Museum and pedestrian densities are visibly reduced. The path is wide and flat. It could easily accommodate a dedicated cycle route. Furthermore signs could indicate 'pedestrian precedence' and the requirement to dismount if necessary. Permitting this route would open up a safer way for cyclists right through East Greenwich, so avoiding the horrors of Trafalgar Road.

Heather Blackett, Greenwich

OUR Star Letter writer wins a £30 gift card to spend at Sainsbury's Woolwich, (now open until 10pm Mon-Sat) so get writing! For information about your closest store and to shop online go to www.sainsburys.co.uk

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TWO OF A KIND: The City of Adelaide, due this week, a passenger clipper ship, and the Cutty Sark (inset) a tea clipper



Clipper ships united

AN historic meeting between two of the world's oldest sailing ships is due to take place this week.

The legendary Cutty Sark, the oldest surviving tea clipper and a national treasure, will be joined near her dry dock in Greenwich by the City of Adelaide.

The world's oldest sailing clipper, the Adelaide is being moored on the Thames nearby after being towed on top of a barge from the Scottish Maritime Museum at Irvine via Chatham Dockyard.

The Adelaide was built in 1864, five years before the Cutty Sark, as a passenger ship to take migrants from Britain to south Australia.

by Dick Townsend-Smith

She is due to spend several days here before starting a return journey to Australia. She should arrive at Port Adelaide between February and April next year.

London was her home port and, on Friday, a renaming ceremony will be held.

The clipper was renamed HMS Carrick when bought by the Royal Navy in 1923, to avoid confusion with the cruiser HMAS Adelaide that had been commissioned in the Royal Australian Navy.

In 2001, the clipper's name reverted to City of Adelaide after a conference

convened by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh Prince Phillip, the Cutty Sark Trust patron, to discuss its future.

The journey to Australia will end an extraordinary 14-year campaign by ship enthusiasts, engineers, maritime historians, descendants of the ship's migrants and supporters.

The ship had been regarded as unrecoverable from the banks of the Irvine River in western Scotland. For many years, she was stranded in a heavily silted river.

But a campaign to save her began, supported by Prince Phillip and prominent politicians including Bob Hawke, the former Australian Prime Minister.

Historic vessels meet for first time

Richard Doughty, director of the Cutty Sark Trust, said: "This week will see a poignant episode in the history of two great sailing ships, when

they meet, possibly for the first time, in the maritime heart of London in Greenwich.

"They illustrate the exceptional quality of

craftsmanship of 19th century British ship builders, and represent key stories of Britain's history – the movement of people and cargo."

Teachers strike

TWO teachers' unions have informed the council that they intend to take strike action on Thursday October 17, over national changes to teachers' terms and conditions, pay and pension schemes.

Schools affected by the strike will inform parents of full or partial closures.

● For the latest information – including details of which schools are closed or partly closed – visit www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk or check on Twitter @Royal_Greenwich

Landlord fined

A LANDLORD was fined £2,500 by Bexley Magistrates for failing to deal with damp at the home he rented in Lee. Deegalla Wijesinghe, appeared on September 23 after breaching an Improvement Notice served under the Housing Act 2004 served by the royal borough. The council was awarded costs of £1,182 and a victim surcharge of £250.

The court heard the house in Sibthorpe Road was riddled with damp and black mould in the kitchen, bathroom and main bedroom.

Crossrail station car park closure

TRAIN passengers will lose 40 car parking spaces in the station car park at Abbey Wood from today (October 15). And the car park will close completely from Monday, November 18.

It's all part of the massive Crossrail project, which will see a new station built at Abbey Wood. Once the car park closes there are plans to provide three replacement spaces for disabled people at the rear of the Abbey Arms pub. They will be available to Blue Badge-holders who travel by Southeastern Trains.

The existing station is due to be demolished and replaced by a temporary station by summer 2014, which will be located in the current station car park. The new station is due to open in 2017 and be built above two new dedicated Crossrail tracks and those used by North Kent services.

The development means that from 2018 there will be a train every five minutes during peak hours allowing residents to travel right through the capital and out to Heathrow without having to change trains.

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Call out for tall ships crew

From Page 1 ➔

The boats will be berthed in Greenwich from September 5-9 for a five-day regatta festival - the first of its kind in the capital for 25 years.

Thousands of visitors are expected to flock to Greenwich for the occasion and further volunteers are needed so there are enough hands on deck to help visitors get on board and show them around the boats.

Four spectacular tall ships are among the first to sign up for the regatta. They include the magnificent Mercedes (pictured below), and the Tecla, two fishing vessels built in the Netherlands, along with the John Laing and the Helen Mary R - two ketches currently used as sail training vessels for young people.

The international sailing event has been organised by STI, a registered charity which promotes education through sail training activities for young people around the world. It organises an annual tall ships race and next year's event from Falmouth to Greenwich will link two towns famous for their rich maritime history.

Royal borough council leader Chris Roberts said: "We cannot wait to welcome

these and other tall ships to Greenwich next summer for our part of the 2014 Falmouth to Royal Greenwich Regatta. To be hosting this event is a huge privilege and we know we offer the ideal location - our stunning waterfront and historic maritime buildings will make a wonderful backdrop for these vessels and we're planning a major programme of events around the regatta to make the five days a big success for the borough."

● **For more information and to sign up to crew a tall ship visit www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/tallships**



Fraud action earns award

THE royal borough's proud record of prudent financial management has been recognised in this year's national Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation Awards.

The council's internal audit and anti-fraud team won the excellence in anti-fraud Silver Award.

Anti-fraud policies and proactive investigative activities are regularly viewed by police and national financial management agencies as best practice for other public bodies to follow.

The judges were impressed by the level of performance from 2012.

The borough achieved 166 housing benefit sanctions, including 75 successful prosecutions.

Overpayments identified in those cases alone came to £1,538,338.

Working with the unauthorised occupation team, the borough has increased its performance in the number of tenancies recovered - 181 since 2012.

Successful anti-fraud work has also identified 96 abandoned tenancies.

The estimated value of the tenancy anti-fraud work is £20.775 million.

There have been 19 arrests by the police

detective seconded to work alongside the council's investigators.

The borough's accredited financial investigators have obtained compensation and confiscation orders in excess of £2m.

The borough's bespoke anti-fraud service to Bromley has identified fraudulent benefit overpayments of almost £6m in recent years.

Cllr Chris Roberts, the royal borough's council leader, said: "I congratulate all those involved in achieving this national recognition. Maintaining prudent public finances and combating all forms of fraudulent activity continue to be a top priority."

"The substantial amounts recovered and the successful convictions show we will not tolerate people who believe they can get away with the theft of public money."

"Fraud is never a victimless crime and by creating a special team to tackle housing fraud we have been able to take back many illegally obtained properties and provide much needed homes for families in desperate housing need."

● **Concerned residents can report a potential fraud in confidence on the benefit fraud hotline: 0800 169 6975 or email fraud@royalgreenwich.gov.uk**

All trips to Africa require malaria pills, experts warn

PEOPLE in the borough are being urged to protect themselves against malaria when they visit friends or family living in countries where the disease is prevalent.

The latest figures show 57 cases in the borough last year, second highest in London boroughs behind Southwark's 73.

Experts believe these boroughs are worst affected because, proportionally, they have higher numbers African residents.

Eighty-eight per cent of cases imported to Britain since 2000 emanated from sub-Saharan Africa. Nigeria accounted for almost half and Ghana and Sierra Leone also had high rates.

Public Health England (PHE) and the African Diaspora for Action Against Malaria (ADAAM) are jointly calling for greater awareness among communities in south east London.

Dr Rachel Heathcock, local director of health protection, said: "Malaria is a preventable disease, so it's concerning that we continue to see high numbers of cases in people from south east London who have travelled abroad. It is particularly worrying that eight out of ten people who contracted malaria reported not taking anti-malarials during their travels to countries where the disease is endemic."

Ralph Tanyi, coordinator of ADAAM, added: "Often people living in the UK who were born in a country affected by malaria may incorrectly believe that they are 'immune' to the disease. In reality, any resistance they may have once had decreases rapidly as soon as people come to live in the UK."

People wrongly think short trips don't require them, he said.

Market rides

A SPECIAL, larger event will help Eltham Farmers' Market celebrate its sixth anniversary on October 20.

Bike maintenance advice will be available and cyclists will be able to take part in free led rides to leave Passey Place to take in the new Greenways cycle routes at Avery Hill Park.

The four rides, led by the London Cycling Campaign, last 45 minutes, starting on the hour from 10am.

● **Details from greener@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or call 020 8921 5100.**

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Foodbank opens eighth borough outlet

AS THE British Red Cross announced last week it is to collect items to combat the UK's food poverty, Greenwich Foodbank's director says his charity has handed out food to 1,500 people since April.

The Rev Paul Rogers, minister of Eltham Park Baptist Church, said he expects that figure to double by the end of March next year.

He said: "We continue to see growing demand from people walking through the door with financial difficulties, making choices between food and rent."

"This week we've opened our eighth client-

facing facility, in East Greenwich, which means we've got a presence in virtually all the town centres in the borough."

The food bank's main storage depot is disused social services offices in Orangery Lane, Eltham, given over by the royal borough.

Harvest festivals at primary schools - with half still to be collected - have filled the depot, but that does not mean people should stop donating, he said, with long life milk, sugar and fruit juice always low in supply.

Rev Rogers said: "Two weeks ago we were nearly empty, but we've seen a remarkable

turnaround. The response we've had at harvest has been so generous, we might have enough to keep us going until Christmas."

"We've had about three to four tonnes of food in the last couple of weeks, but we distribute three quarters of a tonne a week."

"We only supply emergency food, but we like to make sure people have someone who can help them in the long term."

The British Red Cross will ask supermarket shoppers for donations for food bank charity Fareshare as it assists domestic food poverty for the first time since World War II.

Silver legacy

FUN DAY:
The over 60s learnt how to make new things and to dance, including for a flashmob event, on Silver Sunday

by Ian Lamont

HUNDREDS of over-60s tried new skills, made new friends or just had fun, as the royal borough staged its first ever activity day to mark Silver Sunday, on October 6.

Many made commitments to do more activities - and not just older people.

Thamesmead Youth Voice members who visited Gallions View care home said they wished to go again, leading the home to offer to run training sessions on issues such as dementia.

Others took up dancing, just so they could be part of the flashmob lindy hop routine which took place in the Slug & Lettuce at The O2 at lunchtime.

Sandra Ahmet, of Abbey Wood, attended rehearsals and now plans to continue

to be a member of Greenwich Dance's weekly over-60s group. "I'd been looking for a new class to join - something that was affordable," she said. "It's been great fun, and a nice way of mixing with new people."

The only man in the flashmob, Alan Bates, of Eltham, took part a day before he turned 87. "I dance with various groups during the week - ballroom, Latin and sequence dancing," he said. "This was a great event - and it was good to have a mix of experienced dancers and new members."

Cllr John Fahy, cabinet member for adults and older people, said: "This was a tremendous programme, and the enthusiasm of older people was quite clear. I'm hoping that Silver Sunday has helped demonstrate that age really is just a number - and that older people have so much to offer."

"There are so many agencies and

organisations in the royal borough dedicated to helping older people get the most out of life. It's their support that helped make Silver Sunday such a success."

Free events took place in libraries, community centres and other venues, with businesses offering discounts.

At the 'Wealth of Wisdom' event hosted by Age UK Bromley & Greenwich, there was a zumba finale to a day which also featured advice sessions in Skype, crafts and gardening, and free tasters of shiatsu, back and hand massage.

The council's partners included: Age UK Bromley & Greenwich, Greenwich Action for Voluntary Services, Greenwich Carers Centre, Greenwich Community College, Greenwich Dance, Greenwich Leisure Limited and Trust Thamesmead.

● For details of organisations offering activities for older people visit www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/silversunday

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ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN!

Tickets to the Baby Show and baby care products

THE Baby Show which is the UK's number one pregnancy and parenting event of the year, is returning to London Olympia from October 25 to 27. Now in its 12th year, the show will host over 200 specialist exhibitors showcasing the newest and most innovative maternity and baby products. An array of child care experts are also on hand to give their tips and advice on a wide variety of child development topics. It takes place in Olympia Grand Hall, Olympia Exhibition Centre, London W14 8UX from 9.30am to 5.30pm from October 25 to 27. Standard prices tickets are £20 (Friday Standard Advance: £13.95, Saturday and Sunday Standard Advance: £14.95, babies & children under 12: FREE). Book on www.thebabyshow.co.uk. GT has three pairs of tickets to the show along with a first, second and third prize of: a Gogo, the perfect snugly wrapping blanket



by Puckababy, which embraces your baby from top to toe! This beautiful and luxurious blanket protects your child from the cold and external stimuli, both in and out of bed. Mia Tui's award-winning Minnie Amelie bag, perfect as a travel bag, work bag, or as a super stylish baby changing bag and an Organic New Baby Hamper by Green People with a range of care products perfect for the mum to be or those with a new arrival. To enter the competition send a postcard marked 'Baby Show comp' with your



name, address and telephone number to: Greenwich Time, 3rd floor, The Woolwich Centre, Wellington Street, Woolwich, SE18 6HQ or email greenwich.time@royalgreenwich.gov.uk by 5pm on Friday October 18. Prizes will go to the first three entrants picked at random.

Here's one I made earlier

TODDLERS got cutting and sticking in preparation for a special day of family fun this Saturday (October 19).

The children from Waterways Children's Centre in Southwood Road, Thamesmead, were making cardboard sculptures and other artwork for the launch of the Family Learning Festival.

The free event runs from 11am to 4pm at Greenwich Heritage Centre on the Woolwich Arsenal.

It's a chance for families with children from two to 15 to join a range of creative and learning activities and have fun.

The theme of the event is Fantastic Journeys and the Waterways children made rockets and spaceships which will form part of a display at the centre - one of many 'moonscape' displays being staged at children's centres across the borough.

The day will include singing, story-telling, and craft work such as making moon rocks from modelling putty. For older children and young teens there will be other attractions such as street dancing lessons on the Drill Square.

Young people aged nine to 15, and accompanied by a parent, can also bring a bike to the 'Vellocty' workshop for a check-over. There will also be presentations and demonstrations for bike safety at 12 and 2pm.



Cllr Jackie Smith, the royal borough's cabinet member for children's services, said: "The Family Learning Festival celebrates and promotes learning together within the family. Royal Greenwich has always participated and we urge parents and carers to take part in a free day of learning and fun with their children."

Asbestos fines total £25,000

A CARPET shop and a higher education college have been fined a total of £25,000 after workers were exposed to dangerous asbestos.

The council brought prosecutions against Dewgate Ltd, owners of Carpet Corner in Plumstead Common Road, and the North West Kent College. Both pleaded guilty to breaching the Health & Safety At Work Act 1974.

It followed an incident at the carpet shop in March 2011, while a college project set up by the college was running to help unemployed people get work experience.

It involved redecorating and refurbishing the shop but an environment health

officer, who visited after a complaint, found that neither the college nor the shop had checked for asbestos in the building.

An electrician had drilled a hole through a panel in the shop, releasing asbestos fibres and putting people at risk.

Bexley Magistrates were told that their supervisor had ignored warnings. They also heard that the college's safety policy for the refurbishment work was not followed because of a communications breakdown. The court was told that Dewgate had been served with a legal notice calling for improvements in the shop, but failed to act.

Dewgate Ltd was fined

£11,000 and ordered to pay costs of £4,967. The college was fined £14,000 with costs of £4,967.

Cllr Maureen O'Mara, the royal borough's cabinet member for community safety and environment, said: "All forms of asbestos are dangerous when inhaled. So it is crucial that trades people are aware of the dangers, and that apprentices and work placement students are properly trained and supervised so they are not exposed to it."

● **The council's environmental health team provides free advice to businesses about their responsibilities on 020 8921 8177 or 8186.**

Alarming sales techniques

RESIDENTS are being warned about firms which use hard-selling techniques to persuade people to buy burglar alarms and personal safety equipment such as attack alarms.

Companies have been sending out literature and letters in areas where burglaries have recently taken place. They ask questions about the homeowner's safety, with some offering to install a free alarm system. The letter may then be followed up by an aggressive telephone call, aimed to book a consultation and site survey.

The council's trading standards team warned: "The free systems on offer are often subject to the upfront payment of a 10 year-plus maintenance agreement. The cost of the work

only becomes apparent during the site survey."

Homeowners interested in installing an alarm system should get three fixed-price quotes from established businesses advise trading standards officers. And even if people do sign up for a system during a site survey, they legally have seven days to cancel. Agreements should come with a 'notice of cancellation', which should be completed and returned to the business by recorded post, and the post office receipt kept.

● Consumers can contact the Citizen Advice Consumer Helpline on 08454 040506, or visit www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/tradingstandards

Police station open day a success

FOUR hundred people went along when Greenwich police station on Royal Hill threw open its doors for a Sunday open day.

Officers from the Greenwich Safer Neighbourhoods teams were on hand to greet people and take them on a tour of

the station and its custody facilities.

There were also displays where visitors could analyse a crime scene and learn how to take fingerprints.

A vintage police car and vans were also on show, together with stands giving crime

prevention advice. People could also have their bikes marked, to help get them returned if they are stolen and recovered. Inspector Ivor Gwyn said: "We put a lot of effort in organising the open day and we are really pleased so many people attended."

GREENWICH PARENT VOICE

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL FREE! INFORMATION EVENT! @ CHARLTON HOUSE SE7 8RE OCTOBER 24th

THE CHILDREN & FAMILIES BILL & SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS REFORMS

BRIAN LAMB OBE WILL TALK YOU THROUGH THE CHANGES WITH HELP FROM KEY MANAGERS IN CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

WHAT WILL THEY MEAN FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD??

STUDENTS FROM CHARLTON PARK ACADEMY WILL BE SERVING THEIR DELICIOUS HAND-BAKED BISCUITS

REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS FROM 9.30am
PRESENTATION: 10.00am - 2.00pm, LUNCH IS PROVIDED
EMAIL TO BOOK: info@greenwichparentvoice.org

ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH



SPACE INVADERS: youngsters at Waterways Children's Centre, including Mayson Barker, left, one-year-old Amber with mum Mary Ann Wilson, above, and Rhema Ojikutu, right, show off their colourful rockets



Silenced in court

Council action stops noisy neighbours

THE owner of a noisy dog in Abbey Wood has been fined £400, and a Woolwich man was fined £2,000 for playing music too loudly, after prosecutions brought by the royal borough.

Magistrates at Bromley were told that Elysha Melaugh of Blithdale Road, Abbey Wood, had repeatedly allowed her Anatolian Shepherd dog to bark late at night and

by *Dick Townsend-Smith*

early in the morning, and had contravened two noise abatement notices. She was not in court, but was found guilty in her absence and fined £400, with £706 costs and a £20 victim support charge. Magistrates said she had not taken the council's advice and kept the dog inside at night.

In a separate case Samuel Thomas of The Firs, Congleton Grove, Woolwich was fined £2,000 with costs of £1,400 for causing a noise nuisance from loud amplified music at his home. He was also found guilty in his absence. The court granted a forfeiture order on audio equipment that the council had seized from him.

Cllr Maureen O'Mara, the royal borough's cabinet member for community safety and environment, said: "These were both examples of cases where residents had ignored repeated requests to change their behaviour but had refused to do so. People who commit anti-social behaviour, such as noise nuisance, can expect the council to be robust in their actions."

● **To report noise nuisance contact the Noise Team on 020 8921 8921 or email noise.team@royalgreenwich.gov.uk**

Dispersal zone renewed

POLICE have renewed a dispersal order in Woolwich town centre in order to tackle rowdy and anti-social behaviour. It allows them to break up large groups of people causing a disturbance. They also have the authority to return anyone under 16 to their homes if they are involved in anti-social behaviour. The control zone has been in place since 2010 after several incidents where people were harassed by groups of youths. The dispersal order will run for six months until March 7 and then renewed.

Sgt Domenico Tucci, in charge of the Woolwich town centre team, said: "Many people travel into the area every day and we will ensure they are able to do so without being subjected to unacceptable behaviour."



9-27 OCTOBER
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THEATRE LONDON

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TIME OUT

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FOSTERING INFORMATION EVENTS SIGN UP TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FOSTERING

We will be holding an information event for people who are interested in finding out more about fostering.

Venue:

The Woolwich Centre,
Wellington Street, Woolwich SE18 6HQ

Date and Time:

Tuesday 19 November 2013
7pm to 9pm

Booking a place:

Sign up to come to this fostering event by filling in our online form at:
www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/fostering

Contact:

Greenwich Fostering Service
First floor, The Woolwich Centre,
35 Wellington Street,
Woolwich SE18 6HQ
Tel: 0800 052 1499



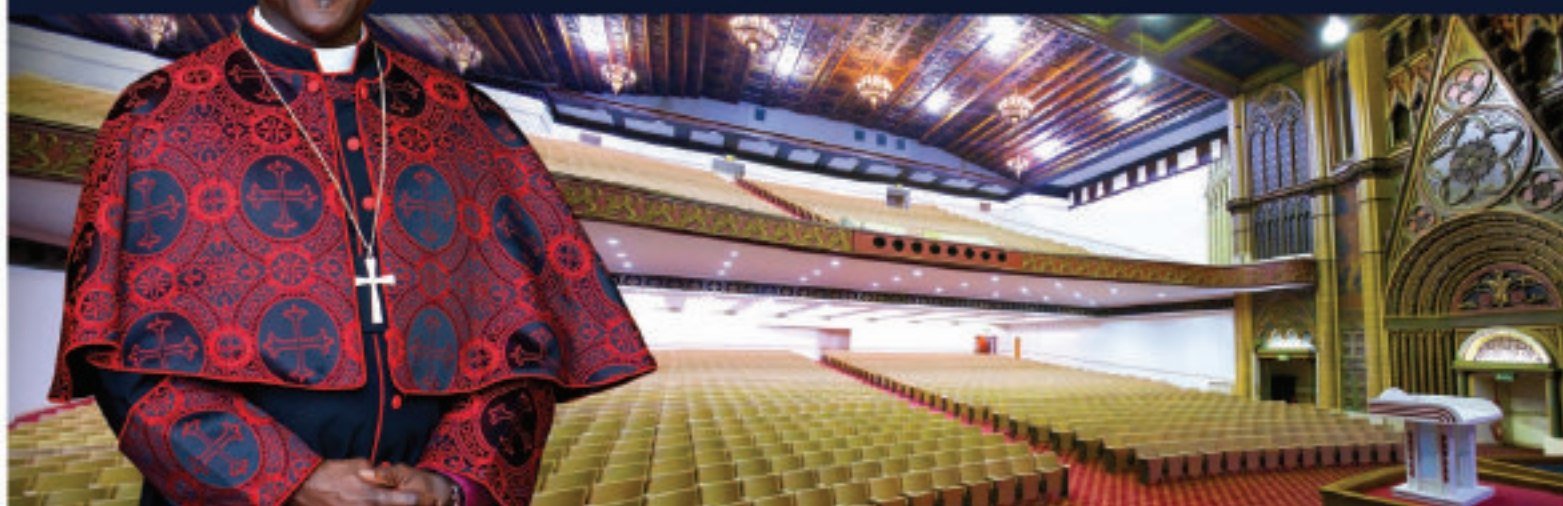
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ROYAL borough of
GREENWICH



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Rev P. Oma Williams



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One long history lesson

School curriculum redesign for 200th year

by Simon Banks

THE curriculum has been totally revamped at Eltham Church of England Primary School, as part of its bicentenary.

A thanksgiving service has already taken place to kick start the school's 200th anniversary celebrations.

Head teacher Matthew Bulpitt said: "The staff and children are very excited at the prospect of celebrating our bicentennial year. We have big plans for events going on throughout the year."

"We have redesigned the curriculum across the school to look at the school's history during the Victorian era, World War I and II, through the 1960s and today."

"We will also be looking at the changing land use and growth of housing in Eltham as well as making contact with Eltham schools across the world."

The service was held at the St John the

Baptist Church, with which the school has been associated for many years.

It was led by Bishop Michael Ipgrave the Bishop of Woolwich, and was attended by members of the Southwark Diocese Board of Education, MP Clive Efford and the Mayor of Greenwich, Cllr Angela Cornforth.

The school's origins can be traced to September 1813. A meeting of residents was held in the vestry of Eltham Parish Church of St John the Baptist.

A society was formed to set up a school at Eltham,

in union with the National Society for the Education of the Poor.

During the winter of 1813 the society acquired the lease on a piece of land where Pound Place met Back Lane. The school was opened in April 1814 for children aged six to 14.

A permanent brick-built school was later provided in 1852 alongside Back



OLD AND NEW: A classroom scene at Eltham Primary School from the 1860s and (left) Year Six pupils today

Lane. In May 1866 the Trustees of Roper's Charity gave a patch of vacant land to the school, where it has been based since.

Other celebratory events include Bunfire day, on November 5, a traditional day in recognition of the battle of Sevedroog.

Every child will receive a special bun

baked by J Ayre, the traditional baker which has a branch in Eltham. There will also be a tea party for pupils and, on June 20 next year, an open day for past pupils and teachers, plus a celebratory service, led by The Dean of Westminster, The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, a former pupil.

The Big London ENERGY SWITCH

A scheme to help Londoners get a better deal on their gas and electricity bills

Are you paying too much for your gas and electricity?

How does the scheme work?

-  The Big London Energy Switch is a collective switching scheme being run by the Royal Borough of Greenwich and a number of other councils in London
-  By gathering together a large number of people who want to lower their gas and electricity bills the Big London Energy Switch, using a third party 'switching provider', can encourage energy companies to offer their lowest prices
-  Once registration is closed, all the energy companies are invited to offer their best prices to everyone who registered
-  You will then receive details of exactly how much money you could potentially save by switching if you accept the offer
-  You can choose to accept the offer or not
-  Almost 1,800 Greenwich residents registered for the first round of the Big London Energy Switch in April, with 71% of registrants able to save money, and an average household saving £122 per year

To find out more or to register go to www.biglondonenergyswitch.org.uk or call 020 8921 5100

The deadline for registration is 18th November 2013

ROYAL borough of
GREENWICH

greener
Greenwich

LONDON
COUNCILS

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Discuss the last taboo over tea and cake at death cafe

SOME things are more difficult than others to talk about in everyday conversation, but it doesn't get much more difficult than talking about a death. Death Cafés have been popping up all over the country in the last two years and now Charlton House is offering the service too. The cafés provide a comfortable arena to speak to others about a bereavement. Subjects dealt with include

funeral preferences, wills and families, all in a relaxed café setting. The café is based on the ideas of Swiss sociologist Bernard Crettaz who wanted to break down the taboo of death. Death Café is at Charlton House on Thursday October 17 from 7:30pm.

● Details on 020 8856 3951, via charlton.house@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or www.charlton-house.org

Cafe refurbishment marks new era for Mycenae House

THE opening of a new cafe bar and a magazine marked a new era for a popular community centre in Blackheath. The former dated café and bar at Mycenae House have been converted into one stylish facility. The new café bar, styled on a 1930s New York deli, was opened at a special celebration evening last month. The event was attended by the Mycenae House committee, club leaders and supporters from the local community. The contemporary café bar compliments the former nunnery's architecture and provides a place for centre users to relax or meet before and after club meetings. Centre manager Mark Johnson-

Brown and administrator Anna Cole were also celebrating the launch of a new bi-yearly glossy magazine. Called Mycenae House, it includes details of centre programmes and events and is available free from public places in the local area. Mark, who has been manager for more than a year, said: "We are very proud of the magazine. Everyone has worked so hard on it. Hopefully these latest developments act as a marker and a step forward for the house."

● For more information about the programme at Mycenae House visit www.mycenaehouse.co.uk



WONDER WEB: visitors learn more about the range of spiders at the ecology park

NATURE lovers gathered at a wildlife beautyspot to help prepare it for the winter months during a special conservation event earlier this month. The Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park hosted two special events for the Big Green Weekend a national day of volunteering organised by the Conservation Volunteers. The Saturday event saw 10 hardy volunteers helping out with practical hands-on work, cutting a wildflower meadow using hand scythes. Ecology park senior warden Joanne Smith explained: "Traditional hay meadows, such as the one on Greenwich Peninsula support a huge variety of wild flowers and minibeasts but are under threat nationally. The meadow needs to be cut in the autumn to sustain this population and hardworking residents in

Volunteers walk on the wild side for clean up

Greenwich duly obliged." Sunday's event saw over 120 people go along to 'Meet the Spiders', a family day that included a spider hunt, close creepy crawly encounters and giant web building. Children also completed spider themed quiz trails and made flies and bugs for a giant spider's web. The ecology park is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10am to dusk. ● Further details from Joanne Smith on 020 8293 1904 or visit www.urbanecology.or.uk



OPEN DAYS

Wednesday 16 October
9am - 12pm

Eltham Hill SCHOOL

Outstanding GCSE results for 2013. 90% of our students achieved 5+ A*- C grades with 73% including English and Maths.

You and your daughter are invited to our open days to find out more about coming to the school in September 2014.

9.00am: Registration and coffee
9.30am - 12pm: Presentation by the Principal

- Tour of the school
- An opportunity to meet students and staff
- Prospective students are encouraged to participate in a range of workshops



Eltham Hill, Eltham, London, SE9 5EE | 020 8859 2843 | www.elthamhill.com | info@elthamhill.greenwich.sch.uk
Excellence, Happiness & Success

Beauty spots cleared up

by Dick Townsend-Smith

SCORES of youngsters worked their socks off in a weekend tidy-up at three of the borough's open spaces.

Some spent a Saturday giving a facelift to Plumstead and Winns commons by collecting up piles of unsightly litter.

Another group of 17-year-olds – including 13 from Greenwich – spent the following day cutting back vegetation and litter picking at the Kidbrooke Green nature reserve.

They were members of the government-funded Challenge Network, which brings young people together from different backgrounds and teaches them what it means to be responsible and contribute to their communities.

It gives them the chance to get together to try new things. Then, with the support of a team, they build and deliver a project that makes a real difference to where they live.

The two-day exercise was led by council staff, who supplied gloves and supervised pruning with secateurs and a bow saw.

At Kidbrooke Green, they filled 40 plastic sacks with rubbish, much of it wind-blown from the relief road which passes along the reserve's western edge, and collected up junk such as bits of old cars.

The nature reserve, one of Kidbrooke's last two remaining wetland sites, is home to newts, frogs, toads, foxes, birds and insects. It dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, and was a farming community right up until development began in the 1930s.



KIDBROOKE CLEAN-UP:
Teenagers collected 40 sacks of rubbish at the nature reserve

Fast food chain serves up tidier area



TAKING TURNS: McDonald's staff and Cllr O'Mara litter pick around the streets of Woolwich

HELPING to make Woolwich town centre spick and span are staff from McDonald's in Powis Street.

They have been taking their litter pickers and refuse sacks into nearby streets to gather up rubbish as a way of supporting the council's team of street cleaners.

"We take it in shifts to go out on a 15-minute trash walk four times a day," said the branch's business manager Raheem Iqbal.

"All 14 people from our dining area take it in turns, and then dispose of the rubbish in our bins. We want to encourage local people to be tidier and do our bit for the environment."

The staff were joined by Cllr Maureen

O'Mara, the royal borough's cabinet member for community safety and environment, for a litter pick earlier this month. She said: "I applaud the McDonald's team for this initiative, and for setting an example to other people. We all need to play a part in keeping our environment cleaner and safer."

The Woolwich McDonald's – opened in 1974 and the country's first branch – takes part in the company's quarterly global anti-litter campaign called 'Love Where You Live'.

Next year McDonald's is going to change its waste system and have separate bins for paper, plastic and food waste in a green campaign to make a difference.

Construction Jobs

GLLaB is looking for experienced construction workers for jobs with Crossrail, the redevelopment of Olympic sites and other regeneration projects in the Royal Borough of Greenwich.



GLLaB



GLLaB is running a series of information and application sessions at our office in Woolwich. To take part you should have recent construction experience with the relevant tickets for your trade.

Development of Olympic sites currently at a phase requiring:

- All plant drivers
- General operatives
- Groundworkers
- Traffic marshals
- Bankspersons
- Bricklayers



Call 020 8921 2440

to book a place on the next available session

GLLaB
Greenwich Local
Labour and Business

**ROYAL BOROUGH OF
GREENWICH**

NEW ventures are opening up across the borough with the support of business advisers, helping people turn a good idea into a profitable enterprise, working in partnership with the council. DICK TOWNSEND-SMITH checks out some of a growing number of

JULIA Stone from Charlton opened the Cornerstone Café in Major Draper Street on the Royal Arsenal because she needed a new challenge.

"I wanted to give the Woolwich Arsenal area something different – an independent neighbourhood café designed for the local community. We offer fresh, home-made British and Mediterranean food using seasonal produce along with great quality coffee and loose leaf teas."

She took over the old building, a former gun carriage factory, as an empty shell and spent four months having it fitted out.

She said: "We opened in May, and the council's business team gave me valuable advice, such as dealing with planning requirements. They were very helpful, and it meant I didn't have to face any delays."

"I've now got nine permanent and four part-time staff. My customers are mainly local, such as residents and contractors, and I'm hoping to get more people to know about us through word of mouth."

"For the future, I'm looking forward to the time when we are busy throughout the day and evening. I really love having regular customers, and building a relationship with them."

ANGELA Cozier from Plumstead started her nutrition therapy business called Clean Eating Nutrition after reading an article in Greenwich Time.

"It was about a Greenwich woman who had set up her own office support service working from home – and I thought I could set my own business as well," she said.

So she approached the council's business engagement team, who put her forward for South East Enterprise's (SEE) business start-up and business planning courses, followed by other courses in sales, marketing and book-keeping.

"The courses were brilliant, because I learnt from other people's experiences. They knew the pitfalls and the mistakes people make."

"Business planning was absolutely brilliant. They made it so simple and easy to follow."

"I put together my own plan which they assessed. It all gave me a good understanding of what I needed to include," she explained.

Angela launched her business in September, working from home in Garden Road.

She provides consultations to discuss people's diets and goals, and offers advice and support. She already has six clients, recommended by word of mouth.

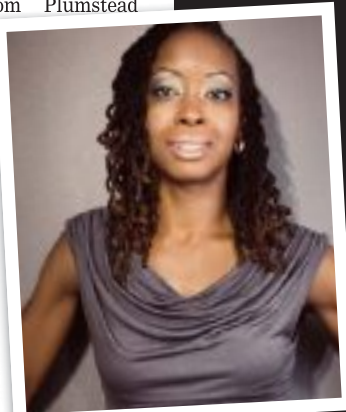
She said: "I'm trying to build up the business, and I deal with customers at their workplaces, their homes, or via Skype."

"Longer term, I'd like to get business from corporations and bigger firms so I can go in and spend a day working with several of their employees."

● South East Enterprise is at 26 Burney St, Greenwich, London SE10 8EX. Tel: 020 8305 2666, visit www.seenterprise.co.uk

Just for start

Business advisers offer tailor-made support to aspiring entrepreneurs



CLEAN LIVING: Angela Cozier, above, started her health and nutrition business after reading about another business start up in Greenwich Time

CAREER CHANGE: Liz Walker, right, now provides remedial massage therapy after help to start her own venture



A health message through massage

LIZ Walker, from Greenwich, worked in the City as a project manager in engineering when she got the opportunity to leave and do something different.

"It's not an easy thing to change career, but it was an opportunity to get out of the Rat Race, and set up a sports and remedial massage therapy business," she said. "But it wasn't a flash in the pan – it was five years in the planning, and I had to train for it as well."

Liz is now the owner of 360 Degrees Massage and has set up a clinic in Westcombe Park Road.

She said: "I treat a wide range of clients from athletes to desk bound office workers and weekend warriors."

"I am passionate about helping people achieve their potential through an integrated approach."

"Everyone can benefit from sports and remedial massage – from athletes to busy mums."

The council's business team arranged for Liz to go on SEE's business planning, marketing and sales courses. She said: "They gave me the opportunity to meet like-minded people and share ideas."

"The staff were very supportive, and the courses are very affordable and are all local."

"They gave me the confidence to start on the journey, and I was put in touch with the right people."

"It's all about local networks and word of mouth referrals and going to networking events."

"My key goal is to work with clients to get to the root cause of the issue or pain that they might be experiencing and to put together an appropriate treatment plan including tailored home-care."

rt of experts in the council's business engagement team. They are
in partnership with the South East Enterprise business support agency.
f success stories and finds out what's on offer...

Starters

PIECE OF CAKE: Julia Stone with one of her home-made cakes



Start-up support

AS well as start-up support, the royal borough business support service can give advice on management, bidding for contracts, marketing, financial management and accountancy. For more information email business@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or call 020 8921 8689.



CAFE SOCIETY: Diners enjoy refreshments at the new Cornerstone Cafe on the Royal Arsenal

DO YOU LOOK AFTER SOMEONE WHO RELIES ON YOUR HELP?

A carer's assessment will look at how caring impacts on your life, and tell you what support is available.

- Advice, and access to support services
- A carer's personal budget (from £50-£500 dependent on your eligibility and need)
- Information on practical support available for the person you care for.

For general advice call the Greenwich Carer's Advice Line **0300 555 1515** If you look after an adult and would like to arrange your assessment, call **020 8921 2304**.



**CHARLTON MANOR
PRIMARY SCHOOL,
INDUS RD, LONDON SE7 7EF
TEL : 020 8856 6525**

Teaching Chef Scale 6 £24,210 pa Required ASAP

We are seeking to appoint a dedicated, motivated and enthusiastic qualified Chef to deliver cooking lessons throughout the school.

This post is full time, however part time hours are negotiable.

This position is subject to a 'disclosure' check under the 'Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974'

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Please contact Mrs. Beryl Johns, School Business Manager by email: bjohns@charltonmanor.greenwich.sch.uk or telephone 020 8856 6525 ext. 226 for an application form.

Unfortunately we cannot facilitate online applications.

School visits recommended.

**Closing date for applications:
Friday 8 November 2013.**



**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL
GLENURE RD, ELTHAM SE9 1UF
TEL: 020 8850 7835**

EYFS Teacher (Reception) Required for January 2014

The Governors wish to appoint a practising Catholic who is highly motivated and creative. St. Mary's is a two form entry school so the successful candidate will need to work closely in a team. The position is initially for a YR class but the flexibility to work across the key stages is essential. This is a wonderful opportunity for an excellent practitioner to work in a friendly school with well-behaved children and supportive parents.

Application packs are available from the Main Office. Informal visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and therefore expect all staff to share this commitment. The appointment will be conditional upon an Enhanced Disclosure being obtained via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

**The Closing date for
applications is
25 October 2013.**



Families get creative for arts festival

GREENWICH Dance and Greenwich Theatre have teamed up to offer a packed programme for the first ever UK-wide Family Arts Festival this month.

Locals of all ages can enjoy bite-sized bits of dance, circus and music with Greenwich Dance's Family Cabaret (Oct 26) and the Little Angel Theatre's new puppetry production of We're Going on a Bear Hunt at Greenwich Theatre (Oct 30 - Nov 3).

All ages can get dancing with a barn dance (Oct 18), tea dance (Oct 19) and family disco (Oct 25) at Greenwich Dance.

POP! Ballet (Nov 2) at Greenwich Dance brings young audiences their first taste of ballet through beautiful dance, music and storytelling. There will be an extract of Sleeping Beauty, followed by a fun ballet workshop and the chance to meet the dancers, (for children aged two and up).

Kat Bridge, interim artistic director at Greenwich Dance said: "We are delighted to be offering such a fantastic array of activities for families to enjoy this October half term. You can bring your little ones to enjoy a magical ballet, or take your grandparents to a traditional tea dance. Our partnership with Greenwich Theatre means we can develop new work for our family audiences, something both organisations are passionate about."

Dad Dancing, a series of photos by renowned dance photographer Chris Nash, will be on display at the Borough Hall throughout the festival from October 18 to November 3.

As part of the Big Draw, children are invited to create a giant picture and test ideas with artists and a choreographer at Greenwich Dance while Greenwich Dance and Greenwich Theatre are also jointly commissioning a new work called Me and My Nan for the Family Arts Festival while children attending any of Greenwich Dance's dance classes on Saturday October 26, can also bring a family member for free to enjoy the class with them!

More details at www.greenwichdance.org.uk

Picture this at the flicks

A COLLECTION of local artists are celebrating the link between Greenwich and the River Thames with an exhibition of work hosted at the Greenwich Picturehouse.

The Bugsby's Group are presenting 'Images of Greenwich and its River', a collection of paintings focusing on Greenwich and its riverscape.

A wide selection of styles are represented from oils to watercolours and mixed media.

Group curator Oona Chantrell said: "This collection of local artists continues to focus work on Greenwich and its riverscape. The paintings present a range of personal views, from realism through fauvist expressionism to abstraction, with the theme of the river running through."

**The show is on until the
end of the month in the cinema bar,
upstairs at the Greenwich Picturehouse, and
is free to the visiting public.**



AMATEUR astronomers are inviting us all on a free night out with the stars this Friday!

Members of the Flamsteed Astronomy Society are running a special stargazing session on Blackheath and they'll be over the moon if locals join them to wish upon a star.

They are viewing a penumbral lunar eclipse, a rare astronomical occurrence which sees the earth's shadow falling on the moon. And they will be joined by TV celebs from the BBC Sky at Night team, who are filming proceedings for a future episode of the programme.

The stargazers will be gathering at Talbot Place off Goffers Road, on Blackheath from about 8pm this Friday (October 18) to await the eclipse expected at about 11pm and they'll be there until the early hours.

Attendance is free and anyone can just come along. Some telescopes will be available from the society, but you are encouraged to bring your own



MOONSTRUCK: a full moon casts a warm glow over Blackheath Village

Pics courtesy of the Flamsteed Astronomical Society

WHAT'S

BLACKHEATH, TALBOT PLACE
Blackheath Stargazing. Fri Oct 18.
Bring a telescope or binoculars and join in looking at stars with experts. **From 8pm. FREE.**
Visit www.flamsteed.info

ELTHAM, PASSEY PLACE
Eltham Farmers' Market. Sat Oct 20.
A farmers market selling a range of fresh produce. **10:30am-3pm. FREE.**

WOOLWICH LIBRARY
Weds Oct 16, launch of the library African Caribbean Reading Group, Weds Oct 16 12.30-1.30pm.

GREENWICH DANCE BOROUGH HALL
Dad Dancing - Family Arts Festival.
From Fri Oct 18 - Nov 3.
Photos by renowned dance photographer Chris Nash. **FREE. greenwichdance.org.uk**

CHARLTON HOUSE
Death Cafe. Thurs Oct 17.
An opportunity to discuss the inevitability of death in comfortable surroundings. **7.30pm. FREE.**
Donations welcome. **020 8856 3951.**

Starry starry night

Dan Stephens meets a group of stargazers as they prepare to watch a lunar eclipse

telescopes and binoculars so as many people as possible can view the eclipse.

And there'll be experienced observers on hand to point things out in the night sky and answer questions.

Grey Lipley, vice chairman of the Flamsteed Astronomy Society said: "A penumbral lunar eclipse occurs when the earth moves between the sun and the moon, which sees the earth's shadow cast on the moon's surface. From about 11pm the moon will begin to get darker.

"You'll be able to see it with the naked eye but at our Stargazing session we will have telescopes in place for people to get a really good view. We normally

get a good mix of members of the society and the public so I'd encourage everyone to come down and experience this fantastic astronomical event! Just remember to wrap up warm and bring a torch as the spot will be dark, so as to appreciate the night sky!"

The amateur astronomy society started in 1999 and is based at the Royal Observatory and National Maritime Museum, and is named after the first Astronomer Royal, John Flamsteed. There are around 350 members who enjoy regular meetings and talks on all aspects of astronomy including cosmology and space flight

along with numerous gatherings for exciting astronomical occurrences.

"It's such a privilege to be able to hold our meetings on a site of such astronomical significance, and to have access to the Royal Observatory, its professional staff and other eminent guest speakers," Grey added.

Membership of the society includes membership of Royal Museums Greenwich which brings several benefits including free entry to the Cutty Sark, Peter Harrison Planetarium, Flamsteed House and the Meridian Courtyard and fast track entry to special exhibitions at the Sammy Ofer

THE HIGH AT NIGHT: main pic and below, astronomy club members stargaze on Blackheath



Wing of the National Maritime Museum as well as discounts in shops and cafes.

For more info on the Flamsteed Astronomical Society visit www.flamsteed.info

ON

To enter a listing email journ.simonbanks@gmail.com or call 020 89215916

BOB HOPE THEATRE

Pirates of Penzance, Thur Oct 17
Sidcup Operatic Society presents classic comic opera.
7.45-10pm. £12.50, £10.50. 020 8301 2681.

BLACKHEATH HALLS

Landscapes from the Darenth Valley by local artist Cristiana Angelini, until Oct 28, 10am-5pm. FREE

WOODLAND FARM TRUST

Hedgerow Liqueurs, a tramp and forage around the farm followed by sloe gin making. Oct 19, 1-5pm.
£8, £5 for farm members. Booking essential on 020 8319 8900

GREENWICH HERITAGE CENTRE

Family Learning Festival, dance, craft, stories and singing activities for families, 11am - 4pm. FREE

OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE

Impressions of Greenwich, Discover Greenwich gallery. Artwork by the Blackheath Art Society, 10am-5pm until Nov 1. FREE.

CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Woolwich Singers Community Choir. Every Wed. Join a choir singing a mixture of popular songs.
6.30pm - 8, £2 inc refreshments. 07812 477 775

AVERY HILL PARK

45-min rides in the park start and finish at Eltham Farmers' Market, Passey Place, Eltham. Oct 20, 10am-2pm. FREE. Participants will need to bring their own bike.

BLACKHEATH HALLS

Chamber music by Sergei Prokofiev. Oct 23, 6pm. £5. Music recital as part of the Prokofiev Festival
At 8pm, **Simon Morrison: The Love and Wars of Lina Prokofiev**, 8pm, £10 (includes glass of wine).

GREENWICH TAVERN

Poetry at the Treehouse, Oct 24
Poetry readings from members of the Greenwich Poetry Workshop. 7.30-10.30pm FREE

WEST GREENWICH COMMUNITY&ARTS CENTRE

Early black film makers, Oct 28-29
Celebrate the founding fathers of black film-making at a series of screenings and discussions for Black History Month. 10.15am-3.50pm. £5 per screening.

DISCOVER GREENWICH OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE

The Big Draw, Oct 28, 1-4pm. Arty activities to celebrate the national Big Draw event, suitable for all ages. FREE



CHARLTON HOUSE

The Darkest Hours of Victory
Thursday October 24

THERE'S a chance to talk to the writers and actors after a collaborative performance by Global Fusion Music & Arts and the Malaika Dance Unique. They a play for Black History Month called 'The Darkest Hours of Victory'. The play about Kenyan Independence coincides with 50 years of independence of Kenya this year and tells the story of colonial Kenya, the Mau Mau uprising and genocide of the Kenyans that followed by the British. There are also insights into some

little known historical moments when Princess Elizabeth and her husband Philip visit Kenya after independence at the time when her father King George V dies and she realises she is now the Queen of England and the commonwealth. Also in more current times when Prince William proposes to the now Duchess of Cambridge in Kenya. A journey of a nation, covering several decades with its darker and lighter moments.

On at Charlton House, October 24, 7pm. Tickets £6 at www.wegotickets.com or £5 on the door with a GreenwichCard. Tel: 020 8858 9497

Greenwich Community College Open Day

Wednesday 23 October 2013

3pm to 7pm

Eltham Centre - 2 Archery Road, SE9 1HA

Sports, Leisure & Tourism Courses

Plumstead Centre - 95 Plumstead Road, SE18 7DQ

All Qualification Courses

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GreenwichHomes

Royal Borough of Greenwich's Choice Based Lettings Scheme

Edition 361

BIDDING FOR PROPERTIES

People on the Housing register are able to bid for all properties, regardless of their banding. You must be eligible for the size of property and bids will be considered in the following order:

First Band A, followed by Band B both in priority date order.
Those in Band C will then be considered in registration date order.

Please note that there will still be some properties with age restrictions so only people of this age group can apply for these.

BAND

- A** is for applicants in unsatisfactory housing, including people moving due to demolition and those underoccupying their homes.
- B** is for applicants the Royal Borough of Greenwich must prioritise according to the law, particularly homeless people, and others with an urgent need to move for medical or welfare reasons.
- C** is for all applicants on the housing register, including those that are in priority bands A and B.

How do I apply?

1

Get on the list

First, you've got to be on the housing waiting list to join the scheme. If you're not, register an application on line at www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk

2

Find your applicant number

It will be on the letter you've already had from the Royal Borough of Greenwich about the new scheme. You'll need that number and the reference number of the property you're after, which will be on the advert.

3

Pick out your ideal property

by looking in *Greenwich Time* or regularly checking the website:

www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/homes

Click on your preference on the website. If you don't have a computer, you can always use one for free at either The Eltham or Woolwich Centre or a local library.

4

Apply in one of three ways

- Text bidding is now available and the number to use is 07786207913. For further information please see page 2, or
- Phone the 24-hour hotline 020 8921 4340. It's an automatic push-button system and calls will be charged at the normal local rate, or
- Via the Royal Borough of Greenwich's website www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/homes

The next edition of GreenwichHomes will be available on **Wednesday 23 October 2013 at midday** and will include any Housing Association properties when available. Closing date for all applications for this issue is midnight on **Sunday 20 October 2013**.

24-hour hotline

The Greenwich Homes
(Choice Based Lettings) Telephone
Bidding Line is available in:
English 020 8921 4340

Greenwich Homes (locations « au
choix ») Ligne téléphonique de
demande disponible en français
en composant le :
French 020 8921 4330

Có sắn Đường dây Đầu giá Điện
thoại Greenwich Homes (Tài sản
Dựa trên Sự chọn lựa) ở:
Vietnamese 020 8921 4343

Guryaha Xaafadda Greenwich
(Guri-ijaar Ku-saleysan kala-
doorashao) Khadka Ku-tarlanka
waxaa laga helaa:
Somali 020 8921 4345

Greenwich Konutları (Tercihle Dayalı
Kıralık Konut) Telefon ile Teklif Verme
Hattı Türkçe de aranabiliyor:
Turkish 020 8921 4347

格林威治家居 (揀選租屋計劃) 開通電
話競投專線:
Cantonese 020 8921 4370

க்ரீன்விச் இல்லங்கள் (தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்ட
வாடகை வீடுகள்) ஏலப் பிரிவு தொலைபே.
இங்கு கிடைக்கும்:
Tamil 020 8921 4300

www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/homes

GreenwichHomes

Royal Borough of Greenwich's Choice Based Lettings Scheme

Anyone on the housing list can apply for these

Rsl allocations policy applies to **Housing Association** properties

If you are bidding for houses under Band C you must have 1 child under 16 years



Moat Housing Group

Ref Number: 86242
Leamington Ct Restell Close SE3
2 Bed 2nd Flr Flat
Lifted Entry phn
Rad C/H 1 pkg space
No pets
£124.90 pw



Gallions HA

Ref Number: 110237
Disraeli Ct SE28
3 Bed Grnd Flr Mais Gdn
Entry phn Rad C/H
No dogs
£113.80 pw



L&Q Housing Trust

Ref Number: 130820
Hatfield Hse Merryweather Pl SE10
Bedsit 5th Flr Flat
Lifted Entry phn
Comm G/H No pets
£118.73 pw



Ref Number: 181745
Pendrell St SE18
1 Bed 2nd Flr Flat
Unlifted Entry phn
Gas Fire & Rad C/H
No Pkg
£90.14 pw



Hexagon Housing

Ref Number: 181882
Fishermans Walk SE28
2 Bed Hse Gdn
Rad C/H
£105.11 pw



Ref Number: 181942
Ellison Hse Lewisham Rd SE13
2 Bed 7th Flr Flat
Lifted Entry phn
Gas Fire & Rad C/H
No Pkg
£90.61 pw

Information Only Parlour Houses

3 bed Parlour is counted as a 4 bedroomed

4 Bed Parlour is counted as a 5 bedroomed



Gallions HA

Ref Number: 182012
Booth Close SE28
3 Bed 2nd Flr Mais
Unlifted Entry phn
Rad C/H No pets
£113.53 pw

Bands A&B Priority Applicants

Fewer Bands A&B priority applicants have been bidding for advertised properties in recent weeks.

Please note that if you do not bid on a regular basis you risk losing your priority status.

Please contact the office if you need help in bidding.

HOW TO BID FOR ADVERTISED PROPERTIES BY TEXT

If you would like to bid by text, please use the following Text Bidding Number: **0778 620 7913** and type:

CBL, the **property reference number** and your **applicant number**.

The property reference will be on the advert and your applicant number is on the letter we sent to you when you registered for housing.

A successful bid will look like this:

CBL 179104 12191

You will need to do a separate text for each property you wish to bid for and the text is charged at your mobile provider's standard rate. You will receive a text response to confirm your bid within 5 minutes.

Seaside and Country Scheme

This scheme offers one and two bedroom flats and bungalows on the Coast and in the countryside, in the South East and West of England.

In order to be considered you must be:

- A Council or Housing Association tenant
- At least 60 years old (if someone is moving with you they must be over 55 years old).

Your removal costs will be met if you are a Council tenant and you do move to a Seaside and Country home. To register, or find out more about the scheme, contact the Access and Allocation section on Tel: 020 8921 2941

If you are a Housing Association tenant you need to contact your landlord to register.

Further information is available from the scheme management organisation at www.housingmoves.org

Choice hotline 020 8921 4340

GreenwichHomes

Royal Borough of Greenwich's Choice Based Lettings Scheme

Anyone on the housing list can apply for these

Rsl allocations policy applies to **Housing Association** properties

Information Only

Parlour Houses

3 bed Parlour is counted as a 4 bedroomed

4 Bed Parlour is counted as a 5 bedroomed



Ref Number: 182100
Rutland Hse
Ogilby St SE18
4 Bed 2nd Flr Flat
Unlifted Rad C/H
No Pkg
£111.82 pw



Ref Number: 182105
Whinchat Rd
Thamesmead SE28
4 Bed Town Hse Gdn
Rad C/H
£131.51 pw

Mutual Exchange Swapping your home

Council and Housing Association Tenants can exchange their property with another tenant. From April 2006 applicants who have registered for a mutual exchange will be able to find suitable swaps through the Greenwich Homes website www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/homes.

For more information about this scheme contact the Allocations Team on

020 8921 2941

If you are bidding for houses under Band C you must have 1 child under 16 years



Ref Number: 85225
Hill House
Defence CI SE28
2 Bed 2nd Flr Flat
Lifted Entry phn
Rad C/H No pets
1 pkg space
£126.95 pw

Affordable Homes

Please note any Housing Association properties advertised in this way will have a higher rent charge

Affordable Housing



Ref Number: 182014
Greenhaven Drive SE28
3 Bed Hse Gdn
Rad C/H 2 pkg spaces
£222.00

Affordable Housing



Ref Number: 182115
Brookhill Close SE18
4 Bed Hse Gdn
Rad C/H
£180.00 pw

Small is beautiful Under Occupation scheme

If you are living in a Council property that is too big for you, we can help you to move to somewhere smaller. The Council will pay your removal costs, and £350 for each bedroom gained.

To join the scheme you must be willing to move to a home with two bedrooms less than you have now:

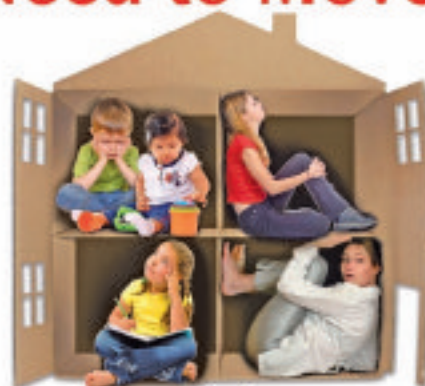
- 3 bedroom to a 1 bedroom home
- 3 bedroom parlour / 4 bedroom to a 1 or 2 bedroom home
- 5 bedroom to a 3 bedroom (or smaller) home

Please note under the scheme we cannot consider tenants for a move to a house if they currently live in a flat or maisonette.

For more information contact the Project Team on:

020 8921 2671

Need to Move?



www.HouseExchange.org.uk
The best way to find a Mutual Exchange

For Council & Housing Association Tenants
Local & National Searches
Quick & Easy to Use

You can only register on line for free

Next Edition 362 available on Wednesday 23 October 2013

Choice hotline 020 8921 4340

GreenwichHomes

Royal Borough of Greenwich's Choice Based Lettings Scheme

MOVES ACROSS LONDON

The housingmoves scheme is run by the Greater London Authority and is aimed at social housing tenants who want to move from one part of London to another.

Priority is given to people who:

- have more bedrooms than they currently need
- want to move to be closer to employment or higher education
- need to provide care for family members or friends.

Tenants must have a clear rent account and no on-going record of anti-social behaviour.

Royal borough tenants can register on the scheme and bid for council or housing association property in other parts of London. To register your interest please visit: **www.housingmoves.org**

This is what happened to the homes advertised in issue 358

Address	Bed-rooms	Property Type	No of Bids	Reg date of successful app	Band
Mill Court Titmuss Avenue SE28 8BX	2	FLAT	191	09/09/2010	C
Raymond Postgate Court Tawney Road SE28 8DR	1	FLAT	338	21/06/2010	C
Wren Path SE28 0DU	1	FLAT	239	08/07/2010	C
Dowells Street SE10 9FS	3	HOUSE	506	20/06/2012	B
Lawson House Nightingale Place SE18 4HD	2	FLAT	306	28/08/2013	B
Ada Kennedy Court Greenwich South Street SE10 8UD	1	FLAT	323	16/03/2000	A
Lord Warwick Street SE18 5QD	2	MAISONETTE	405	03/04/2013	B
Frances Street SE18 5LA	2	FLAT	273	16/07/2013	B
Clothier House Kinveachy Gardens SE7 8EF	2	FLAT	498	04/04/2012	A
Elderslie Road SE9 1UE	0	FLAT	329	14/09/2012	B
Malthus Path Thamesmead SE28 8AH	4	HOUSE	293	15/05/2012	B
Corelli Road SE3 8EL	1	FLAT	294	19/12/2012	B
Pitmaston House Lewisham Road SE13 7NG	2	FLAT	227	10/12/2009	C
Sladebrook Road SE3 8LT	3	PARLOUR HSE	755	14/10/2011	B
Dahlia Road SE2 0SX	2	MAISONETTE	374	11/04/2013	B
Winforton Street SE10 8UR	3	HOUSE	719	01/06/1989	B
Marine Drive SE18 5SD	3	HOUSE	751	23/09/2009	B
Elliston House Wellington Street SE18 6QF	2	FLAT	274	08/06/2009	A
Plantagenet House Leda Road SE18 5QR	2	FLAT	339	29/01/2013	B

GreenwichHomes adverts

Greenwich Time

is now being published

50 weeks a year and is delivered

to all residents. GreenwichHome

adverts are included in every issue.

For information or assistance

Contact our Allocations Team

on: **020 8921 2941**

Email: **housing-allocations**

@greenwich.gov.uk

**Eltham Crematorium Joint Committee
Annual Return for the Year Ended 31/03/13
Notice of Conclusion of the Audit and Right to Inspect the
Annual Return
Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998
Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011/817)**

The audit of accounts for the Eltham Crematorium for the year ended 31 March 2013 has been concluded.

The Annual Return is available for inspection by any local government elector for Greenwich, Bexley and Dartford local authority areas on application to Wayne Thompson, Finance Manager, Finance Directorate Department, 3rd Floor, The Woolwich Centre, 35 Wellington Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6HQ

Hard copies of the Annual Return will be provided to any local government elector for Greenwich, Bexley and Dartford local authority areas on payment of £1 for each copy.

Announcement made by:
Wayne Thompson
Finance Manager

Dated: 15 October 2013



**Royal Borough of Greenwich
Audit Certification of Accounts 2012/2013**

The appointed external auditor has certified the closure of the audit of the financial statements of the Royal Borough of Greenwich for the year ended 31 March 2013. The date of the certification was 3rd October 2013.

The accounts are available for inspection by local government electors under Section 14 of the 1998 Audit Commission Act. These documents will be available between 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday on application to:

**Director of Finance, Royal Borough of Greenwich,
The Woolwich Centre, 35 Wellington Street, Woolwich, SE18 6HQ**

Copies of the accounts can also be downloaded from the Council's website at:
www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk

For more information, please contact strategic-accounting@royalgreenwich.gov.uk



**Royal Borough of Greenwich
Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (AS AMENDED)
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)(England) Order 2010
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (AS AMENDED)
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990 (AS AMENDED)**

Notice is hereby given that application(s) have been made to The Royal Borough of Greenwich in respect of the under mentioned premises/sites. You can see the submissions and any plans during the hours of 9.00am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday at:-
Woolwich Public Library, Woolwich Centre, 21 Love Lane, SE18 6QT
Also at <http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/planning> or at the library shown between normal opening hours.

If development proposals affect Conservation Areas and/or Statutorily Listed Buildings under the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Area) Act 1990 (As Amended) this will be shown within the item below.

Anyone who wishes to comment on these applications should be made in writing to Development Planning within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Please quote the appropriate reference number.

Date: 15/10/2013

Mike Howe - Chief Planning Officer

Publicity For Planning Applications

<p>Applicant: Mr John Manley FLAT 4, UNDERCLIFF, 71 BLACKHEATH HILL, GREENWICH, SE10 8TQ Development: Installation of 4 replacement double glazed upvc windows. Library: West Greenwich Library, Greenwich High Road SE10 8BN Conservation Area: WEST GREENWICH</p>	13/1504/F	<p>Applicant: Mr & Mrs Joel & Emma Gill & Higgs 23 EAGLESFIELD ROAD, PLUMSTEAD, LONDON, SE18 3BX Development: Formation of a loft conversion including the erection of two rear dormer windows and construction of a single storey rear extension. Library: Woolwich Public Library, Woolwich Centre, 21 Love Lane, Woolwich, SE18 6QT Conservation Area: SHERWOOD PARK ESTATE</p>	13/2371/F
<p>Applicant: Greenwich Free School VICTORIA HOUSE, 405 SHOOTERS HILL ROAD, BLACKHEATH, LONDON, SE18 4LH Development: Temporary use of Victoria House and grounds as ancillary accommodation for Greenwich Free School until September 2015. Library: Woolwich Public Library, Woolwich Centre, 21 Love Lane, Woolwich, SE18 6QT Conservation Area: WOOLWICH COMMON</p>	13/1683/F	<p>Applicant: Directorate of Children's Services JOHN ROAN LOWER SCHOOL, WESTCOMBE PARK ROAD, BLACKHEATH, SE3 7QR Development: Installation of a sprinkler pump house enclosure. Library: Blackheath Library, Old Dover Road, Blackheath, SE3 7BT Conservation Area: BLACKHEATH</p>	13/2378/F
<p>Applicant: Parkside Blackheath Ltd PARKSIDE, VANBRUGH FIELDS, BLACKHEATH, SE3 Development: Installation of replacement double glazed timber windows on 10 apartment blocks. Library: Blackheath Library, Old Dover Road, Blackheath, SE3 7BT Conservation Area: BLACKHEATH</p>	13/2083/F	<p>Applicant: Mr Lateef Shekoni 110B HERVEY ROAD, KIDDBROOKE, LONDON, SE3 8BX Development: Replacement of existing windows with new windows. Library: East Greenwich Library, Woolwich Road, London, SE10 8RL Conservation Area: SUN IN THE SANDS</p>	13/2382/F
<p>Applicant: LITA DEVELOPMENTS LTD REDEVELOPMENT SITE AT JUNCTION WITH DURHAM RISE AND MANTHORPE ROAD, VICARAGE ROAD, PLUMSTEAD, SE18 7SZ Development: Demolition of existing site and erection of 6 flats, 4 x 1-bed units and 2 x 2-bed units, formation of new amenity area and cycle store plus ancillary facilities. Library: Plumstead Library, Plumstead High Street SE18 1JL Conservation Area: adjacent to Plumstead Common</p>	13/2164/F	<p>Applicant: Mrs Vanessa Grey 100B SHOOTERS HILL ROAD, BLACKHEATH, LONDON, SE3 8RL Development: Erection of a single storey rear wall extension. Library: East Greenwich Library, Woolwich Road, London, SE10 8RL Conservation Area: SUN IN THE SANDS</p>	13/2383/F
<p>Applicant: Mr Nirmal Singh Temple President GURDWARA SAHIB TEMPLE, 1 CALDERWOOD STREET, WOOLWICH, LONDON, SE18 6QW Development: Erection of a new canopy to existing lift access at the rear. Library: Woolwich Public Library, Woolwich Centre, 21 Love Lane, Woolwich, SE18 6QT Conservation Area: Not Applicable</p>	13/2322/F	<p>Applicant: Bengrove Investments Ltd GROVE MARKET PLACE AND 60 ELTHAM HIGH STREET, ELTHAM, SE9 Development: Mixed use development scheme consisting of the construction of a building up to 6-stories comprising 313 sqm commercial unit (A1/A3), 144 residential units, 49 car parking spaces, cycle spaces and associated works. Library: Eltham Library, Eltham High Street SE9 2HA Conservation Area: ELTHAM PALACE</p>	13/2407/F
<p>Applicant: Mr Mark Horley 8 LOVELACE GREEN, ELTHAM, SE9 1LF Development: Erection of a single storey rear extension. Library: Eltham Library, 7 Anchery Road SE9 1HA Conservation Area: PROGRESS ESTATE</p>	13/2332/F	<p>Applicant: Ms Helen Baker English Heritage ELTHAM PALACE, COURT YARD, ELTHAM, SE9 5QE Development: Change of use in part of former tennis pavilion from storage area to visitor interpretation facility. Library: Eltham Library, Eltham High Street SE9 2HA Conservation Area: ELTHAM PALACE</p>	13/2456/F
<p>Applicant: Mr Lance Calder ICE Properties Ltd LAND REAR OF 125 OLD DOVER ROAD, BLACKHEATH, LONDON, SE3 8SY Development: Demolition of existing, redundant motor vehicle repair garage and replacement with new build semi-detached 1 bed and 2 bed dwellings with gardens. (Reconstruction) Library: East Greenwich Library, Woolwich Road, London, SE10 8RL Conservation Area:</p>	13/2351/F	<p>Applicant: Mr Alex Simmons 29 ASHBURNHAM GROVE, GREENWICH, LONDON, SE10 8UL Development: Installation of a sash window into side wall of a existing rear brick extension and installation of a standard velux skylight into the roof of the existing brick extension. Library: West Greenwich Library, Greenwich High Road SE10 8BN Conservation Area: ASHBURNHAM TERRACE</p>	13/2481/F
<p>Applicant: Mr Maltby 45 BLISSETT STREET, GREENWICH, SE10 8UP Development: Construction of a single storey rear extension. Library: West Greenwich Library, Greenwich High Road SE10 8BN Conservation Area: WEST GREENWICH</p>	13/2355/F	<p align="center" data-cs="2" data-kind="parent">Publicity for Listed Building Consent</p> <p>Applicant: Mr Paul Sharp RCP Construction GURDWARA SAHIB TEMPLE, 1 CALDERWOOD STREET, WOOLWICH, LONDON, SE18 6QW Development: Erection of a new canopy to existing lift access at the rear. Library: Woolwich Public Library, Woolwich Centre, 21 Love Lane, Woolwich, SE18 6QT Conservation Area: Not Applicable Listed Building: Grade 2</p>	13/2052/L
<p>Applicant: Mr Stephen Greenall 5 CRAIGHOLM, PLUMSTEAD, LONDON, SE18 3RR Development: Erection of a single storey rear extension and construction of a single storey front extension. Library: Woolwich Public Library, Woolwich Centre, 21 Love Lane, Woolwich, SE18 6QT Conservation Area:</p>	13/2365/F		



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Sport inspires confidence

by Ian Lamont

JUST under 100 disabled adults turned out to try football, tennis and tag rugby at the South London Special League's (SLSL) health and wellbeing project launch.

The scheme aims to use sport as a point of entry to the community for over 16s with a disability.

"We had quite a few people we haven't seen in a while, which is really great," said Sharon Brokenshire of SLSL, whose three-year project received a £20,000 funding boost from Wembley National Stadium Trust (WNST) a week before.

Participants included people not only from places such as the Adult Day Centre in Greenwich but also from far and wide outside the borough - including from Hertfordshire.

The event was supported with volunteers from Greenwich Community College - help that Sharon considers so important for the project to work.

"Sport is the access point to empower the people we help, to make them feel confident and give them self-esteem," she said.

"We will be there for mentoring, so that the people who attend can build relationships with them and become confident.

"The project is all about teaching people how to spend their time, maybe by offering volunteering to help people to learn the skills they need to get a job, like time management and taking responsibility."

The health and wellbeing sports day took place at the London Marathon Playing Fields, on Shooters Hill Road, and at Greenwich Tennis Club opposite.

Sessions were offered in football, tennis and tag rugby. The tennis proved "very popular"

and further activities will

be run. The football sessions showed how people could find a purpose in society.

Some could take a level one football coaching course, she said, adding that such an achievement could inspire them to go higher.

"We want them to get to feel good about themselves and feel confident with others, particularly those who are in a position of authority. If they feel there is someone there who can help, they will have a go. We want to give them the challenge."

SLSL runs a string of organised sport, including the League of Their Own football tournament.

Funding from WNST will allow SLSL to kick on with the project. "We were by far the smallest group to receive funding from them," said Sharon.

"We're on a roll and the odds for success are stacked against us. We're small but we have proved that when we say we're going to provide something and reach targets and goals, we do it."



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Parent Voice hosts information event

REFORMS in the education of children with special needs are being discussed at a free information event for parents next week. Greenwich Parent Voice is hosting the event at Charlton House from 9.30am on Thursday, October 24. Speakers include Brian Lamb OBE and royal borough staff from children's services. Children from Charlton Park Academy will be serving hand-made biscuits. Registration is from 9.30am followed by refreshments and presentations from 10am to 2pm plus lunch. The group of parents who have children with a disability or special needs represents the views of parents and works with the council and health authorities to improve services.

● To book email info@greenwichparentvoice.org

Hospice appeal for volunteers

VOLUNTEERS are needed to support people with advanced illness and their carers.

They're being recruited by the Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice.

The volunteers will be part of a team which meets new people and helps vulnerable people in the community. Full training and support will be provided and there's an introductory day at the hospice this Thursday, October 17, from 10am - 2pm.

● To book a place, please call 020 8320 5812 or email wendyclay@gbch.org.uk

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On top of the world

Natasha wins double biathle gold

by Ian Lamont

LONDON's first torchbearer ahead of last year's Olympic Games will travel to the next host country Brazil next month, having become a world champion in her own right.

Natasha Sinha won the under 17 title at the World Biathle Championships in Cyprus on October 5, beating her rivals over two 1,000 metre runs split by a 200m swim.

The Greenwich Starting Blocks athlete, from Blackheath, finished in 10 minutes 45.108 seconds.

That set her Great Britain squad up nicely for the team gold, too.

The 16-year-old had become British champion during the summer, but had little idea of how she would get on when 25 nations from across the world came together.

She said: "I thought I had a good chance of doing well, but how well would depend on the day. It's not like just a swim or a run where you have times to compare."

After a tactical first 1,000m, Natasha dominated the race from the swim, her preferred event - one which will provide her next

international experience. She will represent England Swimming in the 200 metres butterfly at the World Schools Games in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil, in late November.

It will give the multi-talented teenager a sense of the culture that Olympians will experience in there years' time as she pursues her own global ambitions.

"I'd love to go to the Olympics, whether it be to compete in swimming, triathlon or something else," said Natasha. "My favourite is swimming - that's my main love, but I enjoy running and biathlon."

She has represented Greenwich in swimming and athletics and trains with Beckenham Swimming Club, Greenwich Tritons and Cambridge Harriers Athletics Club.

The latter has helped her sister Sabrina, also supported by Starting Blocks, become under 15 English Schools athletics 1,500m champion.

● **The Greenwich Starting Blocks dinner takes place at The 02 on Wednesday November 6. To become a sponsor contact Dee Delaney on 020 8921 5040, dee.delaney@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or visit www.greenwichstartingblocks.org**



GLOBAL GLORY: Natasha Sinha with her two gold medals and (inset) carrying the Olympic Torch last summer

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